

March 8, 2016 Park Commission Minutes

Present: Scott Warner (President), Ed Willing (Vice-President), Kathy Burton (Secretary), Liz Kocjan, Melody Schmitz

also present: Randall Solberg (Parks Supervisor), Representatives of the Spartan Soccer Club: James Demetriou, Ron Robinson, and Ted Demetriou

1) Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 7:13 P.M.

**Liz made a motion to move item #7 to the top of the agenda. Seconded by Melody. Motion carried unanimously.

7) Gorney Park Soccer Proposal -

a) RESOLUTION NO. P&R 2016-1 - Resolution of the Village of Caledonia Parks and Recreation Commission Authorizing The Park Use Agreement between The Parks and Recreation Commission and The Racine Spartans Soccer Club, Inc. - Ron explained that they would like to utilize Gorney Park because #1 Their club is growing, and #2 cancellations by the Joint Park could be moved to Gorney. Spartan Soccer would prepare, set up, and maintain the fields. Scott had concerns about parking, drainage, and insurance. James felt that parking may not be an issue because games are staggered. It was understood that the Village Drainage Engineer (Tony Bunkleman) needed to be contacted regarding the drainage in the park to accommodate the soccer fields. The representatives assured the Commission that they are a fully insured non-profit organization. Scott informed the Commission and the Soccer Club that the field portion of the park had previously been used as a compost site. He asked the representatives if this would be a problem for the fields. Ultimately, Ted did not think that it would be an issue, but would look at the fields. Kathy wanted to make sure that the Village Board was aware of the intent of the Spartan Soccer Club to utilize Gorney because of a concern about possible neighbor complaints. She also asked if the Village Board had reviewed the agreement. Ed said that the Village Board is aware, has reviewed the agreement and there were no objections. He also stated that he felt the Village Board would prefer a shorter agreement than the proposed 10 years, and may like a longer termination clause opposed to 60 days. There was discussion regarding past experiences in the Parks and the thought processes to explain why the agreement was written the way that it was. Everyone looked through the agreement. Melody felt that because Spartan Soccer was new to Caledonia that the Commission should enter the contract with a 3 - 5 year starting point. James was concerned that the risk the Club would take to invest a lot of money into the fields and lose them after 3 years was not fair to the Club. The Commission agreed. After further discussion, there was an agreement for the following changes: 1) The initial term of 5 years with a 3 year automatic renewal. Unless either party gives 60 days notice from the end of the previous season with the intention not to renew. 2) There is a right to revoke clause if conditions are not being met with a 30 day written notice and an opportunity to correct any infractions. And 3) The Spartan Soccer Club's certificate of insurance must be at least \$1,000,000.00. The Commission would like guidance from the Village Board. Kathy made a motion to approve the draft agreement with discussed changes contingent upon Village Board input regarding terms and fees. Seconded by Liz. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2) Public Comments -none
- 3) Approval of Minutes - Ed made a motion to approve the January 2016 minutes. Seconded by Liz. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) President's Report - Scott is happy with the bi-monthly meetings. He asked members to send any submissions or requests for the meetings to him by the last Friday of the month so that he can provide the Commission with all of the information a week prior to the meeting. Scott let the Commission know that the raffle license did come through. He also informed the Commission that we are currently accepting applications as Marty will be stepping down from the Commission when her term expires in April.
- 5) Budget Report - Scott said that we have rental income coming in, and that the sale of the mower will be finalized soon.
- 6) Bowling Event Summary- Randall said that the Parks profited \$2,346.00 from the Bowling Fundraiser. Melody asked where the money would go. Scott would like to complete the dugouts at Crawford. Melody would like to see the money go to help Randall with his leagues. Scott said that he would send a letter to the Village Board letting them know about the fundraiser and what we are doing with the money.
- 8) Memorials in Village Parks - Scott feels that there should be a policy in place regarding memorials. Scott asked Randall to provide the Commission with pricing on various benches and trees. Kathy and Liz talked about Sgt. Cheryl LaBeau O'Brien, a native Caledonian killed in action in Desert Storm, and wondered if the policy would limit veterans from being honored. Melody supported the Parks honoring our service men and women. Ed made a motion that the Commission formulate a policy regarding the dedication of memorials and determining memorial items and their costs. Seconded by Melody. Motion carried unanimously.
- 9) Supervisor/Maintenance Report
 - a) Supervisor's Report - **see attachment
 - b) 2016 Events - Scott did not like the idea for groups of six instead of groups of four for the June 4th Golf Outing. Randall agreed to change it back to groups of four instead of groups of six.
 - c) Leagues - Randall has five applicants to umpire games.
 - d) Project Approval - Scott asked Randall to keep us up to date regarding the status of the Park Plan.
- 1) Crawford Park Shelter - Scott also asked Randall to just paint the shelter at Crawford Park and hold off on a new facelift until the new Village Hall is built so we can match the Shelter to the Hall.
- 2) Port-a-potties - In terms of port-a-potties, the Commission would like at least one ADA port-a-potty in the parks: Gorney, Crawford, and Linwood; and putting a port-a-potty at the Nicholson Wildlife Refuge.
- 3) 4th of July Parade - Randall would like to apply to be in the 4th of July Parade and showed pictures to the Commission of a float design. Randall told the Commission that Bliffert Lumber Company has already donated the lumber for the float. Ed made a motion to re-enter the 4th of July Parade leaving the design up to Randall not to exceed \$750.00. Seconded by Liz. Motion carried unanimously.
Randall let the Commission know that he has made a contact at Cree Lighting for possible future donations.

10) New Business - Melody expressed frustration of the seeming lack of communication informing members of the Commission of important meetings at the Board level where items affecting the Parks are discussed. She informed the Commission that she has looked at the programs other communities are currently offering for their kids. She feels that aside from baseball, Caledonia offers nothing for kids and is really behind with programming. She asked for permission from the Commission to approach the Board to create awareness regarding this issue in the Parks. The Commission agreed.

11) Communications and Announcements - none

12) Adjournment - Ed made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Liz. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:38 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted by: Kathy Burton

Accomplishments

Bowling fundraiser raised \$2,300.00

I feel we need to purchase something with the funds raised, so that the community is aware of what the money raised was used toward. People like to see what we accomplished with the results.

NWR- Boardwalk material is now at Crawford Park. I will build the final 10 units. I will store the built units at Gorney Park until the ground is dry at NWR.

Bliffert Lumber donated some lumber for the us to use for the construction of the float, a tennis wall and picnic table repair. They will provide us with lumber when needed. The wood is not sellable, but is ok for some of our projects. I also discussed having Bliffert Lumber's logo added to the dugout roofs if we continue to receive lumber from them. Ray, the manager, said that may help with them donating better stock.

Upcoming Projects

SMF - Scott Morton will assist in reconditioning our infields / Painting additional trash cans / Need to order additional can decals / Discuss our Parks signs and entrance / Landscaping and new decal look / Install old player benches around playground areas and Gorney pond / Need to remove old concrete from the frames / I have a friend that will let me use his equipment to drill holes. All I need is a small auger.

Golf fundraiser- Saturday June 4th - We have more interest, therefore we are sending groups of 6 instead of 4.

Poker Run- Saturday July 23rd - Adding new locations to replace closed businesses. All routes will run by our parks this year.

Thank you rider signs will be displayed on our park signs

Immediate Action

Racine Spartans would like a 10 year agreement to use Gorney Park land for soccer.

Blaine commented about a concern with the compost site is currently not on village land. Gorney Park was the original site and if anything would happen with our current agreement, they would have to move back to Gorney Park.

Attached is Mt.Pleasant contract.

Park and open space plan for the village- Board approval- contact: sewrpc.org.

Umpire meeting – review all applications, set a schedule, review payment.

League schedules- 4-6 teams per league.

Crawford Park shelter – what are our plans to give it a face lift.

Port-a-potties- standard or ADA. Gorney Park, Crawford Park, Linwood Park

We discussed adding to NWR - We now have a picnic table located there.

4th Fest Parade

No 2016 application on web site. Last year entry cost was \$25.00

Theme is 80 years of parades in Racine. I would like to rebuild my award winning float from 1985. This is what the judges are looking for showing the history of parades in Racine.

Ongoing / Long Range

Crawford Park – New Village Hall project: Request our park needs for additional parking lot, shelter and ball fields

Closing Woodland Park – remove park benches

Add playground area by the lower shelter at Gorney Park.

NWR building a view tower, expand the parking area

Cree Lighting- We now have a contact for possible donations.